

# PHILS' FENCES ARE NOT SAFE YET—CRAVATH WILL BE BACK WITH HIS BIG CLU

## ALEX WILL FIND NATIONAL LEAGUE "BARRED ZONE" UNLESS HE AGREES TO ACCEPT LESS PAY THAN \$15,000

Other Magnates in New York Agree With Phils' President That \$10,000 Is Enough for Great Pitcher—Eighteen-Player Limit Sure to Lose

UNLESS Grover Cleveland Alexander, premier twirler for the Phils, modifies his demands for an increase in salary he will not be seen in the local ball yard this season. This is the sentiment expressed in New York by the magnates as a whole, and is said to coincide with the ideas of President Baker of the Phils. Alex is holding out for \$15,000, but there is little chance of his getting that amount. The Phils are willing to compromise, and if Grover the Great will listen to reason and accept a salary of about \$10,000 everything will be lovely. If not, he will have an opportunity to try out his plan to pitch independent ball next season and make more money than he would get in the big league.

"Alex is unfortunate in that he is not the only holdout the Phils have to deal with," explained a magnate today. "There are five others howling for more money and they must be taken care of. If the big pitcher was the only one demanding more money it would be an easy matter to deal with him, and the chances are that his demands would be met. However, with Whitford, Pastert and the others worrying the life out of the Philadelphia club, the only thing to be done is to take a firm stand and tell the players exactly where they get off. I admit that Alexander deserves more money, but the club will be foolish to pay him such an enormous salary. There is no doubt that a compromise will be effected and everything settled before the training trip is taken. Alex will listen to reason when he knows the true state of affairs and will accept a figure much smaller than the original \$15,000."

Alex will be out on the old mound for the Phils to hear the first, second and "strike three" ring in his ears—and he will smile. The Great likes to hear "You're out!" better than money, but he can't be arrested for trying to get as much as possible.

### Haughton Says Time Has Come to Cut Down Expenses

PERRY D. HAUGHTON, president of the Boston Braves, also has taken a firm stand against the holdouts. He wants to be fair, he says, but there is a limit to everything. If his players sign up, they are welcome. If not, he threatens to go out in the minor leagues and get players to take their places.

"I realize that the player, and not the magnate, is worshipped by the public," he said, "but there is a limit to all things. The player is popular because he constantly is in the public eye and his work is closely watched day by day. If he wins a close game he is the hero and lauded to the skies. On the other hand, the magnate who really makes it possible for baseball to exist, is forced to stay in the box office, counting the money and worrying how he can make both ends meet. He is pictured as a slave-driver, with his foot planted firmly on the neck of the oppressed players. If the truth were known, it is the magnate who is on the ground and it is the player's foot that is caressing his neck."

"I imagined that there was considerable worry in football, but it is child's play when compared with baseball. In football, all one has to do is to select a team and keep it in shape. In baseball, however, there are one thousand and one things to make life miserable; expenses are enormous, the kind of weather we are to have always is a source of worry and the stockholders are howling for some return on their investment. When a half million dollars is put into an enterprise, there must be some dividends and it is up to the officers of the club to see that some money is made. We have been playing close to the profit and loss margin for several years and the time has come to make some money. We have many holdouts, but they will not be urged to come back nor shall we play on their sympathies with hard luck stories. If they accept the original figures offered them, they will be with us. If not, they will be turned adrift and their places taken by others. When the Federal League was in existence there was some excuse for the high salaries they received, but that day has passed. We have been forced to adopt a retrenchment policy and while it is not the most popular thing from the viewpoint of the fan, it is the only thing which will save the game."

When the bell rings most of the hold-out bunch will be in their uniforms, and the few that do not return will not be missed by the fans—and gladly missed by the owners.

### Eighteen-Player Limit Is Beaten Before It Starts

GARRY HERRMANN's plan to reduce the player limit to eighteen this year has not been met with salvos and cheers from the other magnates. There is no possible chance of the National League putting it through and it is a certainty that the American League will not even discuss it. The teams on Johnson's circuit now have a twenty-five player limit and if they were asked to turn loose seven of their first-string men, some very good players would be on the market. Then, when they are shipped to the minors, the National League will have a chance to sign them up and strengthen their own teams. The American League barons realize this and for that reason never will consent to the change. However, it looked like a threat from the start, and will perish with other wild schemes that have been hatched while the winter league was in flourishing condition. It is safe to say that even the players did not take it seriously.

### Wild Rumors at National League Meeting

BASEBALL week in New York is always a period of wild rumors, and it is evident that this one is to be no exception. With the National League, American League and National Commission meeting on successive days, virtually all the big men of the game are on hand, and it is naturally follows that there are trades and rumors of trades. With the big conclude only one day old ambitious writers have already traced Grover Cleveland Alexander to the Cubs, Johnny Evers to the same team, Frank Schulte to the Phils and moved half a dozen lesser lights of the diamond around in a promiscuous manner. Undoubtedly the most sensational deal rumored is the one concerning our own Grover Cleveland Alexander. It is whispered that Charles Weeghman, potentate of the Chicago Bruins, is seeking the king of pitchers, and is not only willing to meet Grover's salary terms, but is ready to separate himself from a gigantic lot in order to acquire the Nebraska marvel. All of which is unquestionably true. It might be added that there are some fourteen other big league owners who feel the same way about the matter as Weeghman, and they have just about as much chance of annexing Alexander as the Chicago impresario. President Baker could get along without his baseball park as well as he could get along without Alexander, and Weeghman has been in baseball long enough to understand the situation thoroughly. If it is true, as reported, that he will make a bid for the pitcher, it is patent he will be doing so for advertising purposes and not with any idea that President Baker would seriously entertain the proposition.

The report that Weeghman is willing to meet Alexander's terms of \$15,000 per annum is pernicious and damaging to baseball, even though it be only a rumor.

A ship without a rudder—a kite without a tail—an engine without a flywheel—a baseball meeting without rumors—and the Phils without Alexander!!!

### Cravath and His Big Stick Still With Us

PERHAPS the most gratifying news out of the New York meeting thus far is the word that Cravath, the home-run monarch, will be among those present when the Phils open the season. The slugging person would have been sadly missed, even though he is only available this year as a bench man. It is said that Moran intends to use Cravath only as a pinch hitter and that his place in right field will be filled by a younger and sprier performer. Many believe that Cravath will prove more valuable in his new role than he was last year, when he tried to play regularly despite the fact that he had slowed down considerably since the fall before. Undoubtedly, when the Phils were playing away from home "Gavvy" slowed down the entire outfield, and had it not been for the unusual speed of Dode Zerkert and his ability to cover a section of Cravath's territory in right the veteran would not have been available at all. On the small right field at Broad and Huntingdon streets "Gavvy" had little trouble, and only one man, John Titus, ever played a ball off the fence with more neatness and dispatch than Cravath.

At the same time, Cravath for two years has been constantly worrying about his fielding. Unlike many players, he made no secret of the fact that he believed he was slowing up, and the knowledge hurt his batting. But although his legs may be going back on him, the slugger's keen mind, excellent judgment and batting eye seem to be unimpaired, and he should win many games for Moran as a pinch hitter, particularly with so many first-class left-handers performing in the daddy circuit.

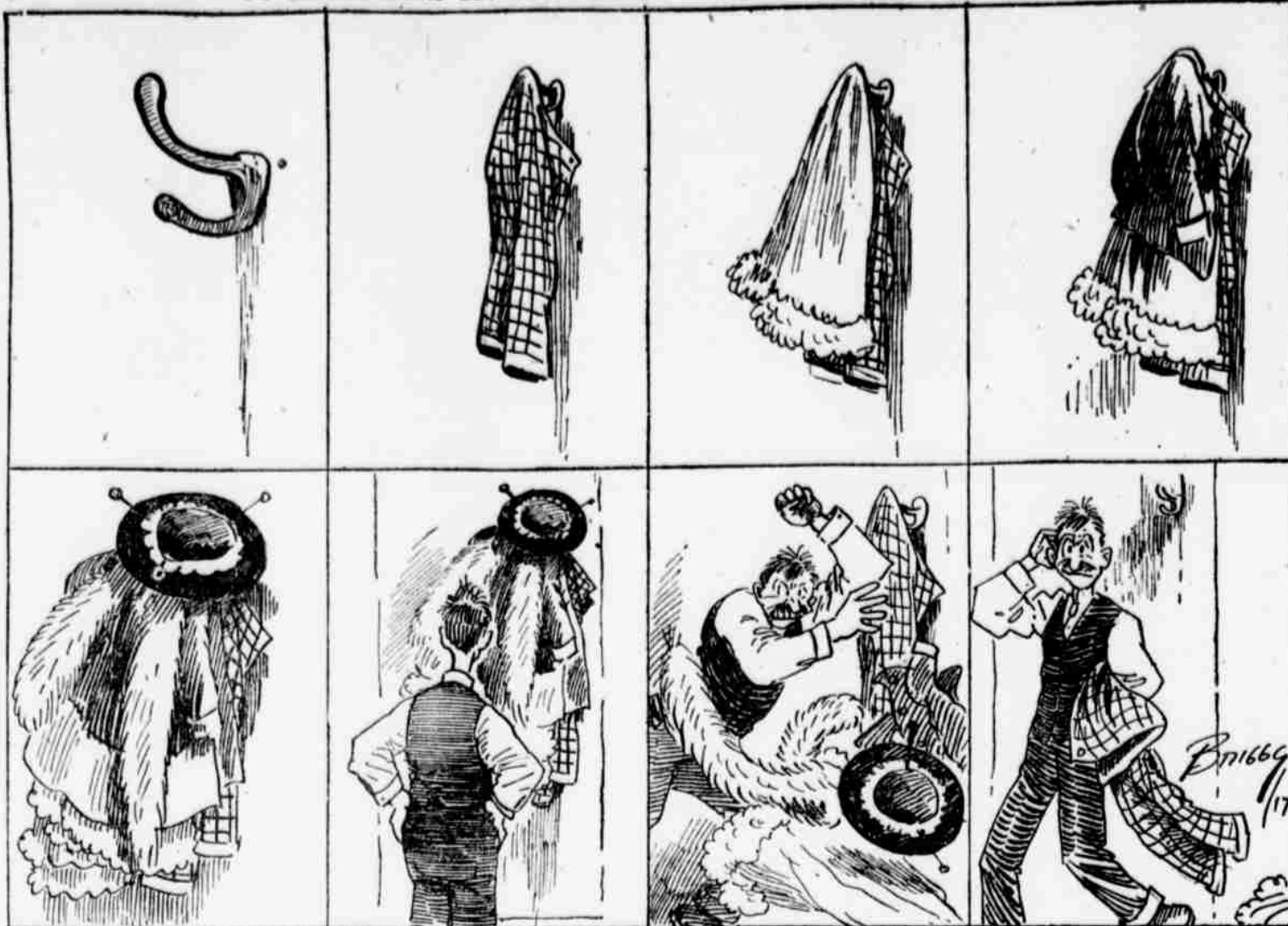
Cravath's first rule of batting is not "hit 'em where they ain't." He rather chooses to follow out his plan of "hit 'em where they can't get 'em without a step ladder."

### Another Team of Sluggers for Philadelphia

IF MORAN succeeds in landing Frank Schulte and Cravath makes good as a pinch hitter the Phils will begin to shape up like the sluggers they were during the closing years of the Doolin regime. With such terrific hitters as Luderus, Cravath, Schulte and Bert Niehoff putting in their afternoons at Broad and Huntingdon streets, a fine crop of extra-base hits should brighten the coming afternoons of wild collars and excitement. Such a line-up would recall the days when Doolin could send Luderus, Magee, Cravath, Becker and Lobert to the plate, one after another, and then, if need be, send Doc Miller, one of the greatest pinch hitters of all time, waddling out to put a final quietus on the enemy. This great sextet as a unit never brought any pennants to Philadelphia, but it made life a burden to other pitchers, to the glory of Philadelphia and satisfaction of Quaker fans.

If Moran succeeds in landing Schulte and the hitter gets his usual amount of home runs, we probably will be forced to hear Chapter XXV of the Philadelphia story of bats, entitled "The Bandbox Park."

## IT HAPPENS IN THE BEST REGULATED FAMILIES



### PENN TEAM CHOSEN FOR BIG TRIANGULAR MEET

Meredith Will Appear in Special Race Against Halpin at Boston

Coach Lawson Robertson, of the Penn varsity track team, has announced the fifteen men who will wear the Red and Blue in the dual triangular track and field meet to be held Saturday night in Mechanicsville, Boston, between Penn, Harvard and Dartmouth. The following men have been chosen: Captain Frank Dorsey, Larry Souder, Tommy Lennon, Elmer Smith, Pope, Walker, Norris, Newstetter, Wickham, Crane, Tibbault, Maxwell, Price, Bots and Withers. Eleven events for the three colleges will be held, while two specials will be run off. The events in which the three teams will meet will be the 40-yard dash, 40-yard high hurdle, 200-yard dash, 600-yard dash, 1000-yard dash, 1500-yard relay, mile and two-mile broad jump, high jump and shot-out. James E. ("Ted") Meredith will meet Halpin, of the Boston A. A., in a special 600-yard race, while Earl Eby, the star freshman middle distance runner and a member of the Chicago A. A., will match strides with Gus Higgins, who beat Meredith and Halpin in the Suburban quarter, and Dave Caldwell, of the Boston A. A., in a special 1000-yard race.

### CAVANAUGH RESIGNS AS DARTMOUTH COACH

WORCESTER, Mass., Feb. 14.—Frank W. Cavanaugh has sent his resignation as football coach at Dartmouth to Joseph W. Gannon, of New York, a member of Dartmouth Athletic Council. Cavanaugh said no reason was given in the resignation and he has none to make public.

### BOXING BILL INTRODUCED IN TEXAS IS REJECTED

AUSTIN, Tex., Feb. 14.—A bill to permit ten-round boxing bouts in Texas has been rejected by the lower house of the Texas Legislature here. The enacting clause has been stricken out.

### IRA PLANK, ED'S BROTHER, AGAIN GETTSBURG COACH

GETTSBURG, Pa., Feb. 14.—Ira Plank, brother of the famous cross-fire Eddie, who has turned out winning teams for Gettsburg College during the several years he has been coach, has been re-elected coach of the college baseball team for the coming season.

### BETZEL AND STEELE JOIN DOAK AS CARDS' HOLDOUTS

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 14.—Infielder Bruno Betzel and Pitcher Bob Steele, of the Cardinals, have joined Bill Doak as holdouts.

### NATIONAL LEAGUE UMPIRES

Bransfield Replaces Mal Eason as Arbitrator for the 1917 Season

NEW YORK, Feb. 14.—The National League umpires named for next season follow: Henry O'Day, William Klein, Charles Rigler, Robert Emble, William Byron, Ernest Quigley, Al Orth, Peter Harrison and William Bransfield. The only change is that the veteran first baseman Kitty Bransfield will relieve the former Brooklyn pitcher Mal Eason.

Davenport Shot by Own Rifle

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Feb. 14.—On his return from a hunting trip at his home in Bridgeport, Tex., Dave Davenport, of the St. Louis American League, was seriously wounded when his rifle was accidentally discharged. A bullet passed through his chest and also inflicted a scalp wound. Davenport was taken to a hospital at Cuero, Tex.

### Indiana Boxing Bill Introduced

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 14.—A bill to legalize boxing and wrestling contests and to create a state commission on boxing and wrestling has been introduced in the lower branch of the State Legislature here. Under the bill the commission would consist of three members, appointed by the Governor, at an annual salary of \$2500 each.

### Suits or Overcoats

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NONPAREIL A. C. TONIGHT FIVE BOUTS TONIGHT—TONIGHT US SUDENBERG vs. TOMMY COLEMAN

CAMBRIA A. C. Remington Ave. and Homewood St. FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 16TH. 8:00 P. M. Adm. 25c.

## SCRAPS ABOUT SCRAPPERS

By LOUIS H. JAFFE

JOHNNY DUNDIE wants to become a philanthropist. He needs one to accept his money, and the one in question only can be Willie Jackson, so it depends on Willie, if the South West's philanthropic dreams are to become true. All Dundie desires of Jackson is for him to agree to a 20-round fight, or to a finish—Johnny is not at all particular—and then the Montevideo entry gladly will separate \$1000 from his bank roll. Four thousand in legitimate, honest-to-goodness U. S. curlicues is the tempting prize Dundie offers to guarantee Jackson for a return set-to. There has been talk of a special show here with a Jackson-Dundie bout as the headline, but as yet nothing definite has been settled.

Ten-round bouts may be staged in Reading in the near future, according to Lou Grimsom. Lou has been official referee of the Auditorium, in Reading, where the game is flourishing. As the police authorities of that city have announced that ten-round bouts are legal, plans are now under way to increase the contests from six rounds.

Gus Sudenberg, a middleweight from Omaha, Neb., will make his first appearance in the East when he battles in combat with Tommy Coleman at his Newport Club tonight. This will be the first Wednesday night show of the Kensington arena. Other bouts are Charley Jones vs. Mike Byrne, Indian Russell vs. Young Cuban, Benny Harrison vs. Mickey McKenna, and Charley Lat vs. Eddie Hughes.

Three bouts have been arranged for Jackie Charles. He meets Tommy Harko at Auburn, N. Y., February 19; Hugh Ross at Pittsfield, Mass., February 26; and Frankie Brennan at New York.

### Evening Ledger Decisions of Ring Bouts Last Night

NEW YORK—Aurice Ratner won from Roddy McDonald; Vic Dahl stopped Bill New, fourth.

BOSTON—Frankie Britt defeated Dick Looman.

### Georges Carpentier Killed at French Front, Is Report

NEW BRITAIN, Conn., Feb. 14.—Georges Carpentier, famous French boxer, was killed by the bursting of a shell on the French front about three weeks ago, according to Luman Beckett, a private in the English army, who is here on a furlough. Beckett said today that he heard the news of Carpentier's death just before he left the trenches.

Harrisburg, February 28. Negotiations also are on for a match with Harry Tresh, twenty rounds, at Lancaster, Md., early in March.

Johnny Dutka, the middleweight from Allentown, who has appeared here, speaks, reads and writes five different languages. He is "preparing" for a law career in the office of Dallas Dilling, of Allentown. Dutka is of Slavish parentage. Dallas boxes Frankie Brennan in Allentown February 26. Besides boxing the Slav also is an expert swimmer.

Artie O'Leary's recent victory over Kid Black in New York was the former amateur's first experience over the ten-round route. Although O'Leary is a New York lad, he came to Philadelphia to make his professional debut. His exhibition in his home town quarters was impressive, as his services are wanted by several New York promoters.

Henry Hauser will be in the best shape ever for his bout with Jack Blackburn at the Broadway Club tomorrow night. Hauser is anxious to topple the once great negro boxer and he has a mighty difficult proposition cut out for himself. Indian Russell vs. Muckle Billy is the semi.

Jack Wolfe, of Cleveland, next may pair off with Memphis Pat Moore in Cleveland February 26. Wolfe's two bouts in Baltimore over the fifteen-round route proved him to be a real clever boxer and probably a dangerous contender for Pete Herman's crown.

One pound in weight caused a big wrangle between Tommy Kelly and Jim Freney, respective managers of Barney Hahn and Young McKeown, but finally they agreed on 115 pounds, five-side, for Friday night's wind-up at the Cambridge.

## JOIE RAY MAKES TWO-MILE RECORD

Chicago Flash Improves Mark Held by Bouhag by 3 3-5 Seconds

### MEREDITH FINISHES LAST

NEW YORK, Feb. 14.—Joie Ray, of Chicago, broke the two-mile record indoors by running the distance here in the N. Y. A. C. games in 9 minutes 11 2-5 seconds. George Bouhag held the former mark, 15 minutes 15 seconds.

Tom Halpin, Boston A. A., won the "Burney" 500-yard run, with Moore, of Princeton, second, and Diamond, of Chicago University, third. Ted Meredith, of Philadelphia, who has two legs on this trophy finished last, only four starting. The winners' time was one minute flat.

J. G. Loomis, of Chicago, took first honors in a series of three sprints at fifty, sixty and seventy yards, equaling the world's record of 7 1-5 seconds in the last event, and finished first in the seventy-yard low hurdle.

Fred S. Murray, national low hurdle champion, should have won the final in the seventy-yard high hurdle contest, but he stumbled over the second hurdle and quit. The event was won by A. J. Engels, New York Athletic Club, with C. E. Erdman, Princeton, second, and R. F. Warren, University of Pennsylvania, third.

John W. Overton, of Yale, cleverly won the Exeter mile in 4:19 1-5. His time was one second behind Abel Kiviat's record for the same event made four years ago.

### MANY FAMOUS "CHAMPS" TO GRACE SPORTS DINNER

Plans are now complete for the Made-in-Philly dinner, the big sporting writers' event. Authorities on every branch of sport will gather for the thirteenth annual affair, which is to be held at the Hotel Walton on Tuesday evening, February 21.

Its popularity is not confined to the Quaker City, for yearly prominent figures in the world of sport grace the dinner with their presence. The list this year includes Grover Cleveland Alexander, the foremost pitcher in the National League; "Ted" Meredith, world's champion middle distance runner; Richard Norris Williams, 24, world's tennis champion; John B. Kelly, the sculling champion; J. Howard Berry, the University of Pennsylvania football and track star; Charles Furber, the champion long-distance swimmer; Robert Folwell, coach of the University of Pennsylvania football team, and Harry Hempstead, president of the New York National League Baseball Club. Tickets may be obtained from the sporting editors of the daily newspapers, Louis N. Goldsmith, treasurer, 611 Chestnut street, and from Alexander B. Brooks, Room 225, City Hall.

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